## Amendments to the Claims

1    Claim 1 (previously presented):  A method of preparing information usable in theft detection

2    using radio frequency identification ("RFID") technology, comprising steps of:

3        creating a unique correlator value, for a current transaction comprising a plurality of items

4    being purchased together, as a function of one or more values; and

5        storing the unique correlator value in an RFID tag affixed to each of the items, such that

6    correlator values stored in RFID tags affixed to a group of items can subsequently be compared

7    to determine whether the items in the group were all purchased in one transaction.


1    Claim 2 (currently amended):  The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of

2    storing the unique correlator value in a database of previous transactions, such that the

3    subsequent comparison can consult the database to determine whether any of the items in the

4    group were purchased in any of the previous transactions if those items are determined not to

5    have been purchased in the one transaction.


1    Claim 3 (previously presented):  A method of detecting potential theft using radio frequency

2    identification ("RFID") technology, comprising steps of:

3        locating, in an RFID tag affixed to each of a plurality of items possessed by a shopper, a

4    correlator value previously written therein as a unique, transaction-specific value; and

5        concluding that selected ones of the items possessed by the shopper were potentially not

6    paid for if the located correlator value for the selected items is not identical to the located

7    correlator value for the other possessed items.

Serial No. 10/666,287                    -4-                        RSW920030196US1

1    Claim 4 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 3, further comprising the steps

2    of:

3          determining whether each of the selected items was paid for in a previous transaction by

4    searching a database of previous transactions wherein correlator values of the previous

5    transactions are stored, looking for the correlator value found in the RFID tag of that selected

6    item; and

7          concluding that the selected item was paid for if the correlator value for that selected item

8    is located in the determining step.


1    Claim 5 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 3, wherein the previously-

2    written correlator value was created, for a particular transaction comprising a plurality of items

3    purchased together, using a function computed over one or more values, and was written in an

4    RFID tag affixed to each of the items in the particular transaction, such that the items are thereby

5    associated with one another, prior to operation of the locating step.


1    Claim 6 (original): The method according to Claim 3, wherein the concluding step concludes

2    that selected ones of the possessed items were paid for if those selected ones were in the

3    shopper's possession when the shopper entered an establishment in which a transaction

4    represented by the correlator value was conducted.


1    Claim 7 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 3, further comprising the step of

Serial No. 10/666,287                          -5-                          RSW920030196US1

2     remembering each item that was in the shopper's possession when the shopper entered an

3     establishment in which a transaction represented by the correlator value was conducted, and

4     wherein the locating and concluding steps do not apply to the remembered items.


1     Claim 8 (previously presented): A system for preparing information usable in theft detection

2     using radio frequency identification ("RFID") technology, comprising:

3        means for creating a unique correlator value, for a current transaction comprising a

4     plurality of items being purchased together, as a function of one or more values; and

5        means for storing the unique correlator value in an RFID tag affixed to each of the items,

6     such that correlator values stored in RFID tags affixed to a group of items can subsequently be

7     compared to determine whether the items in the group were all purchased in one transaction.


1     Claim 9 (currently amended): The system according to Claim 8, further comprising means for

2     storing the unique correlator value in a database of previous transactions, such that the

3     subsequent comparison can consult the database to determine whether any of the items in the

4     group were purchased in any of the previous transactions if those items are determined not to

5     have been purchased in the one transaction.


1     Claim 10 (previously presented): A system for detecting potential theft using radio frequency

2     identification ("RFID") technology, comprising:

3        means for locating, in an RFID tag affixed to each of a plurality of items possessed by a

4     shopper, a correlator value previously written therein as a unique, transaction-specific value; and

Serial No. 10/666,287        -6-        RSW920030196US1

5     means for concluding that selected ones of the items possessed by the shopper were

6     potentially not paid for if the located correlator value for the selected items is not identical to the

7     located correlator value for the other possessed items.

1     Claim 11 (previously presented): The system according to Claim 10, further comprising:

2     means for determining whether each of the selected items was paid for in a previous

3     transaction by searching a database of previous transactions wherein correlator values of the

4     previous transactions are stored, looking for the correlator value found in the RFID tag of that

5     selected item; and

6     means for concluding that the selected item was paid for if the correlator value for that

7     selected item is located by the means for determining.

1     Claim 12 (previously presented): The system according to Claim 10, wherein the previously-

2     written correlator value was created, for a particular transaction comprising a plurality of items

3     purchased together, using a function computed over one or more values, and was written in an

4     RFID tag affixed to each of the items in the particular transaction, such that the items are thereby

5     associated with one another, prior to operation of the means for locating.

1     Claim 13 (original): The system according to Claim 10, wherein the means for concluding

2     concludes that selected ones of the possessed items were paid for if those selected ones were in

3     the shopper's possession when the shopper entered an establishment in which a transaction

4     represented by the correlator value was conducted.

Serial No. 10/666,287     -7-     RSW920030196US1

1      Claim 14 (previously presented): The system according to Claim 10, further comprising means

2      for remembering each item that was in the shopper's possession when the shopper entered an

3      establishment in which a transaction represented by the correlator value was conducted, and

4      wherein the means for locating and means for concluding do not apply to the remembered items.


1      Claim 15 (previously presented): A computer program product for preparing information usable

2      in theft detection using radio frequency identification ("RFID") technology, the computer

3      program product embodied on one or more computer-readable media and comprising:

4      computer-readable program code means for creating a unique correlator value, for a

5      current transaction comprising a plurality of items being purchased together, as a function of one

6      or more values; and

7      computer-readable program code means for storing the unique correlator value in an

8      RFID tag affixed to each of the items, such that correlator values stored in RFID tags affixed to a

9      group of items can subsequently be compared to determine whether the items in the group were

10      all purchased in one transaction.


1      Claim 16 (currently amended): The computer program product according to Claim 15, further

2      comprising computer-readable program code means for storing the unique correlator value in a

3      database of previous transactions, such that the subsequent comparison can consult the database

4      to determine whether any of the items in the group were purchased in any of the previous

5      transactions if those items are determined not to have been purchased in the one transaction.

Serial No. 10/666,287          -8-          RSW920030196US1

1    Claim 17 (previously presented):  A computer program product for detecting potential theft using

2    radio frequency identification ("RFID") technology, the computer program product embodied on

3    one or more computer-readable media and comprising:

4          computer-readable program code means for locating, in an RFID tag affixed to each of a

5    plurality of items possessed by a shopper, a correlator value previously written therein as a

6    unique, transaction-specific value; and

7          computer-readable program code means for concluding that selected ones of the items

8    possessed by the shopper were potentially not paid for if the located correlator value for the

9    selected items is not identical to the located correlator value for the other possessed items.


1    Claim 18 (previously presented):  The computer program product according to Claim 17, further

2    comprising:

3          computer-readable program code means for determining whether each of the selected

4    items was paid for in a previous transaction by searching a database of previous transactions

5    wherein correlator values of the previous transactions are stored, looking for the correlator value

6    found in the RFID tag of that selected item; and

7          computer-readable program code means for concluding that the selected item was paid for

8    if the correlator value for that selected item is located by the computer-readable program code

9    means for determining.


1    Claim 19 (previously presented):  The computer program product according to Claim 17, wherein

Serial No. 10/666,287                        -9-                          RSW920030196US1

2      the previously-written correlator value was created, for a particular transaction comprising a

3      plurality of items purchased together, using a function computed over one or more values, and

4      was written in an RFID tag affixed to each of the items in the particular transaction, such that the

5      items are thereby associated with one another, prior to operation of the computer-readable

6      program code means for locating.


1      Claim 20 (original): The computer program product according to Claim 17, wherein the

2      computer-readable program code means for concluding concludes that selected ones of the

3      possessed items were paid for if those selected ones were in the shopper's possession when the

4      shopper entered an establishment in which a transaction represented by the correlator value was

5      conducted.


1      Claim 21 (previously presented): The computer program product according to Claim 17, further

2      comprising computer-readable program code means for remembering each item that was in the

3      shopper's possession when the shopper entered an establishment in which a transaction

4      represented by the correlator value was conducted, and wherein the computer-readable program

5      code means for locating and computer-readable program code means for concluding do not apply

6      to the remembered items.


Serial No. 10/666,287            -10-            RSW920030196US1